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REMARKS

Claims 1-11, 13-30, and 32-38 are currently pending in the subject application and are presently under consideration. Claims 1-39 have been cancelled. Claims 40-64 have been newly added herein - these claims do not raise new issues requiring further search or undue consideration. Rather, the new claims have been added to incorporate subject matter of various objected to claims the Examiner has deemed allowable. Accordingly, entry and consideration of these claims is respectfully requested. A complete listing of the claims showing the changes made in revised amendment format can be found at pages 2-6 in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121.

Applicants' representative thanks the Examiner for the courtesies extended during the telephone conversation of May 3, 2004 where the cancellation of the rejected claims and introduction of the subject new claims (including the allowable subject matter) was discussed and agreed upon to be entered and considered so as to place the application in condition for allowance. It was also noted that applicants' representative intends to file a continuation application pursuing the original filed and/or cancelled claims of the subject application.

I. Rejection of Claims 1-4, 6, 7, 9-11, 13-21, 26-30, 32, 33, 35, 36, and 38 Under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

Claims 1-4, 6, 7, 9-11, 13-21, 26-30, 32, 33, 35, 36, and 38 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Koenig (U.S. 5,923,874). The aforementioned claims have been cancelled herein. Accordingly, this rejection is moot, and withdrawal thereof is respectfully requested.

II. Newly Added Claims 40-64

Claims 40-64 have been newly added herein. Independent claims 40, 49, 56, 62, and 64 recite limitations from former objected to claims 5, 8, 22, 34, and 37 (cancelled herein). The Office Action indicates that said objected to claims recite allowable subject matter and would be allowable if recast into independent form including all limitations of respective base claim(s) and any intervening claims. Accordingly, independent claims 40, 49, 56, 62, and 64 are believed to be allowable, as well as claims 41-48, 50-55, 57-61 and 63 at least by virtue of

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their dependency on the aforementioned independent claims. Hence, claims 40-64 should be entered and the subject application allowed.

CONCLUSION

The present application is believed to be in condition for allowance in view of the above comments and amendments. A prompt action to such end is earnestly solicited.

In the event any fees are due in connection with this document, the Commissioner is authorized to charge those fees to Deposit Account No. 50-1063.

Should the Examiner believe a telephone interview would be helpful to expedite favorable prosecution, the Examiner is invited to contact applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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